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Royal Colonial Institute
Canada
1891

John Campbell Gordon
First Marquess
of
Aberdeen and Temair



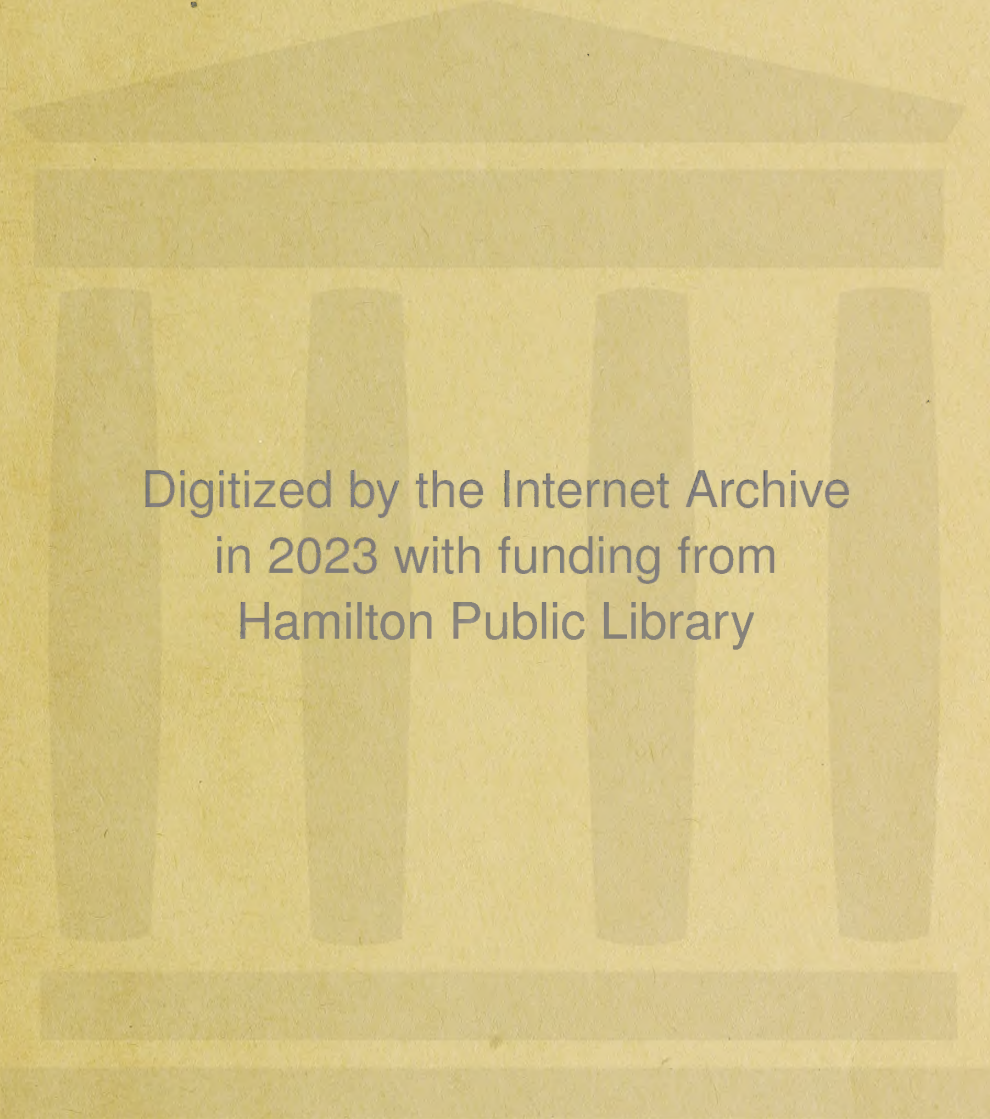
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FOURTH ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING.

THE Fourth Ordinary General Meeting of the Session was held at the Whitehall Rooms, Hôtel Métropole, on Tuesday, February 10, 1891.

The Right Hon. the Marquis of Lorne, K.T., G.C.M.G. (a Vice-President of the Institute), presided.

The Minutes of the last Ordinary General Meeting were read and confirmed, and it was announced that since that Meeting 31 Fellows had been elected, viz., 19 Resident and 12 Non-Resident.

Resident Fellows :—

William Herbert Anderson, Major F. W. Benson (17th Lancers), Edwin Booth, William C. Cooper, Ernest R. Debenham, Harold W. Fairfax, John A. Ferguson, David George, Captain George N. Hector, R.N.R., E. Lytton Hitchins, James R. Laing, Jun., Alfred M. Nicholls, Charles H. Sippe, Arthur W. Sutton, Leonard Sutton, Patrick G. Spence, Edward Stanford, Jun., Alexander Tillie, Alfred Wood.

Non-Resident Fellows :—

Henry Dyke Acland (New Zealand), Albert E. Colebrook (Victoria), George Hebden (Victoria), Dr. George Hurst (New South Wales), Herbert St. Clair Jones (Jamaica), Frank M. Mackwood (Ceylon), John McIlwraith (Victoria), Joseph Meston, C.E. (Trinidad), D. W. Harvey Patterson (Victoria), G. H. Royce (New South Wales), Dr. John H. Saunders (Victoria), Walter S. Howard Smith (Victoria).

It was also announced that donations to the Library of books, maps, &c., had been received from the various Governments of the Colonies and India, Societies, and public bodies both in the United Kingdom and the Colonies, and from Fellows of the Institute and others.

The CHAIRMAN: I am sure you will agree with me that Lord Aberdeen has done very well in visiting Canada, and that, as the next best thing, he has done well in coming here and reporting himself to the Royal Colonial Institute. Nowadays everybody who crosses the Atlantic does visit Canada. In old days it was by no means the case. I remember over and over again—even at the time I was there—being very indignant with some eminent Englishmen who went to many parts of the States and did not cross the northern frontier line at all. I remember remonstrating with one or two of these gentlemen, and getting answers to the effect that they had so much to see in the States that they had no time to visit Canada. All that is very much changed now. One eminent

Englishman who had been guilty of this crime, and with whom I remonstrated, was good enough to write me a very long letter saying he was so certain that it was Canada's ultimate destiny to become annexed to the United States that it was hardly worth while in the brief time at his disposal to do anything more than study the great organisation into which Canada was to be absorbed. The truth is, in the old days people got so well dined and wine when they went to New York and the States by our good friends there, that they lost all consciousness of patriotism, and they seemed to think that the narrower patriotism of Englishmen should be laid aside, with other ancient prejudices, when they had crossed the water. That is all changed now, and nobody is satisfied unless he not only sees the old provinces of the Dominion, but crosses the prairie country and visits the shores of the Pacific. This Lord Aberdeen has done. He comes to speak to you of Canada with fresh knowledge, and I am sure you will give him your best attention.

The EARL of ABERDEEN then read the following Paper on—

CANADA.

After receiving from the Royal Colonial Institute the honour of an invitation to read a paper relating to Canada, I endeavoured to devise a title which would in some way indicate by what method, or from what aspect, I would endeavour to treat so great a subject. But no happy thought or inspiration coming to my aid, I resorted to the adoption of the most simple and comprehensive designation possible, so allowing my paper to tell its own tale as to method as well as matter. But I must confess also that as the inevitable day which in November seemed so delightfully distant has drawn near I have become increasingly conscious of the arduous and responsible nature of the task which was, perhaps, rashly undertaken. It is no light matter to offer to such an audience as this, representing the great centre and headquarters of Colonial correspondence and experience in this country—it is no light matter to offer remarks upon a Colonial subject.

And I confess I feel at the present moment specially qualified to enter into what must be the emotions of a divinity student, or young minister, when, as is sometimes the case, he is called upon to deliver a specimen address in the presence of his reverend seniors in the ministry. And doubtless you will remember, what I am not likely to forget, that on one such occasion, when a young preacher asked

one of his older brethren which passage in his discourse was considered the best, the reply was, "Well, I thought the best was the passage *from the pulpit to the vestry*."

But fortunately the best judges are often the most generous critics—and I may here say that my object will be to interest rather than to enlighten—and the chief point of interest at which I shall aim will be the presentation of some of the impressions which may be formed on the mind of a traveller who at this present epoch makes a trip through Canada. In short, to give in somewhat extended form a reply to the inquiry which may possibly have been addressed more than once to such traveller, viz. "What do you think of our country?"

In these days any description of a visit to lands beyond the Atlantic need not include allusions to the passage across that ocean, for it has now become so well traversed a highway that the older captains are supposed to recognise even individual big waves as familiar acquaintances which wink at them as they pass. But I may mention that in the case of the tour which provides the material for this paper our study and impressions of Canada and the Canadians commenced almost before we were out of sight of British shores, owing to our good fortune in finding as fellow passengers such well-known and valued members of the Canadian community as Sir John and Lady Thompson, Sir Alexander Campbell, Senator Botsford, Mr. Sandford Fleming, and others. In such good company we reached the port of destination.

The emigrant to the new world of Canada usually makes acquaintance with it first in what is really an Old World city, full of associations and traces of the past, combined with natural features of a most striking and beautiful sort. Many have been the descriptions and pictures of that far-famed and grandly situated town on which the admiring gaze of so many arriving voyagers has been fixed; but as a writer of to-day says, "No words could ever describe Quebec; and moreover it exercises a curious fascination on the visitor. It transports him to the past whether he wills it or not. The sentiment of the place dominates him, and it is the only town which I have seen which I can imagine as imposing on her children the same strange potent spell which binds the Scottish folk to their ancient and romantic capital 'Auld Reekie.'"

I turn to the more prosaic but also more practical topic of the present arrangements and accommodation for the reception of emigrants arriving at Quebec. The Dominion Government and the

railway companies have shown themselves alive to the importance of this matter. As one of the emigration agents remarks in his report, "first impressions count for a great deal, especially with immigrants in a new country; and in the majority of cases they are either favourably or unfavourably impressed by the reception which they experience on landing." Briefly the arrangements for creating this favourable impression include a fine building which the Dominion Government erected a few years ago, known as the Immigration Hall, containing ample accommodation for shelter, rest, and the purchase of provisions for large numbers of immigrants; while the Canadian Pacific Railway have recently erected a wharf about 800 feet long, a large baggage-shed, &c., near to which the train is drawn up. This is frequently a special train, composed of colonist sleeping cars. Four hundred passengers with their baggage are sufficient for one train, so that frequently two trains are required for the immigrants from a single vessel.

Having spoken thus of the arrangements for the commencement of the land journey, it is only right to give a further statement from the report of the agent whom I have already quoted. He says: "All the immigrants whom I interviewed on the subject of accommodation and treatment while on board ship stated that they had been well treated as to accommodation, food, &c., and that the officers and men were at all times courteous and obliging, doing all in their power to make things as pleasant and agreeable as possible during the voyage." This is highly creditable to those who organise and those who carry out these arrangements; but it also, I venture to think, reflects credit on the poorer class of the emigrants themselves, as illustrating their patience and readiness to put up with inconvenience, because, even under the improved arrangements, the steerage of a vessel, especially in rough weather, must be anything but an elysium; and the same might be said of the four, five, or six days' journey by rail in even a superior colonist car.

I shall have something to say further on about emigrants and those who are most likely to find good openings for success; meanwhile I will just mention that the number of persons arriving in Canada by the St. Lawrence route in 1889 was about 27,000, 22,000 landing at Quebec and the remainder at Montreal, of which total about 3,000 were cabin passengers and the remainder steerage.

This shows a diminution from the numbers of preceding years, but there is a consensus of opinion that the decrease in numbers was more than counterbalanced by the improvement in the style and quality of the immigrants.

Turning now to the impressions likely to be formed on the mind of the visitor to Quebec and the surrounding territory, it may safely be said that he will not be long there without being struck by the quiet, thrifty, and peaceable manners and disposition of the inhabitants. This disposition, coupled with the loyalty and attachment of the French population to the British throne and connection, is a striking illustration of the results arising from an enlightened and liberal extension of rights and privileges in all matters of local government, and the institutions, language, and traditions of any particular race.

With regard to the product of the land we do not find in this part of Canada heavy grain crops. For these we must turn further south and west. The traveller who wishes to get a good idea of the general progress and attainments of agricultural enterprise in the Dominion will do well to take advantage of, among other sources of information, an opportunity of visiting some of the agricultural shows or fairs, as they are called, which are held in the various centres every autumn. Of these that of Toronto, representing as it does especially the garden province, Ontario, is the most extensive and important. This great fair, which I had the advantage of attending last September, continues for a week. A vast quantity of live stock and of Canadian natural products are exhibited, and the show is visited by an immense concourse of people. If many of these are attracted by the various sights and amusements which are displayed, as much as by the agricultural and industrial exhibits, it is none the less creditable to all concerned that such complete order and quietness prevail. There may be some room for discussion as to how far this is secured and promoted by a regulation of the managing committee which excludes the sale of intoxicants within the Exhibition grounds; but to my mind the very existence of such a provision is a very indication of the quality of the public opinion which supports the executive of a great undertaking in the adoption of such a rule, which in some other countries, where it is probably much more needed, would no doubt be unfairly attacked as puritanical and oppressive.

With regard to the impressions likely to be formed in the mind of the visitor by the various exhibits of live and other stock, and also by the admirable display of agricultural machinery, I must be content with the general statement that no one could fail to be struck by the practical tokens which are there manifested of the resources of the country and the energetic skill of the people. A further word or two may, however, be permitted as to one specially im-

portant section, that of horses. I was delighted to see some excellent individual specimens, not only Canadian-bred but a number of splendid Clydesdales and also some Shire horses which had just arrived from this country for breeding purposes. The progeny of such animals will, it may confidently be predicted, not only be of immediate benefit in improving the Canadian stock, but may quickly develop and extend an export trade in horses, especially to Great Britain. For such development there is certainly great scope and great need. Canada might, for example, provide many of the horses required for the British Army. There is an impression that the representatives of the War Office have for the present discontinued the purchase of horses in Canada out of deference to the jealousy of British agriculturists. There may be something in this, for that British agriculturists are sensitive no one can deny. But I think it may also be admitted that at any rate until recently the farmers of Canada have not paid very special attention to the breeding of that stamp of horse most eligible for military purposes, and indeed for the British market generally. Thus it may be noted that Colonel Ravenhill, of the Royal Artillery, visited the Dominion in 1886 for the purpose of buying horses for the British Government; and although he travelled more than 14,000 miles and inspected more than 7,000 horses he eventually purchased only eighty-three, and this was not due to the prices asked—for these Colonel Ravenhill considered reasonable and moderate. The disproportion between the number inspected and those selected naturally occasioned some comment, and the Dominion Minister for Agriculture, Mr. Carling, with characteristic promptitude and foresight, applied to Colonel Ravenhill and his colleagues for a report, which with other papers on the same subject were duly published “in view of the interest and importance of the information contained in them in relation to horse breeding in Canada, and particularly with a view to building up an important export trade for the Dominion.” But I must not dwell upon the contents of this publication beyond stating that it indicates and explains the points in which many Canadian-bred horses had been found wanting.

Meanwhile it is highly satisfactory to find that the attention directed to the matter has created a stimulus in the Canadian horse-rearing business, especially in the richly pastured ranches of Alberta. The time is only now arriving when the results of the new departure in the horse business can begin to be observable; but it may confidently be predicted that in a short time a supply of horses far superior to that of four years ago will be found ready for the market

which will certainly be available both for army requirements and for general purposes.

I have dwelt thus for a moment upon this branch of trade, not from failing to recognise the importance of other far greater and established subjects of commerce, but because of the interest and significance attaching to the initiation or development of any new industry in a young country. When it is remembered that previous to 1872 scarcely a pound of beef (other than a certain quantity salted) was brought either alive or dead from Canada to Great Britain, some idea will be formed of the rapidity and vastness which may characterise the advance of a particular branch of trade between these countries. At the same time it may be assumed that the department of food supply will generally exceed all others in magnitude and continuity.

As to the dimensions of the export trade of Canada in cattle I need only remark that the number in 1889 was over 85,000, being larger than that of any previous year. It is also noticeable that the corresponding export from Canada to the United States has been much smaller. Thus in the year ending June 1889 only 37,360 cattle were sent into that country from the Dominion, and the disproportion in value is still greater, the reason being that, as a rule, a superior class of animal is shipped to Great Britain, while all sorts and conditions are disposed of across the frontier. The number of sheep, however, sent into the United States from Canada was far larger than that exported to Great Britain.

Any allusion to the United States in connection with a topic of this kind irresistibly suggests a reference to the now historical McKinley Tariff.

Certainly the visitor to Canada during the autumn of last year found himself there during an exceptionally interesting and eventful period, with opportunities of observing at first hand the various currents of controversy and opinion which had been aroused. If I may record my own impression, I would say that during the months which followed the passing of the McKinley Bill there was traceable a very marked and steady advance from the natural perturbation and anxiety created in the minds of many Canadians by the first announcement of that policy to an increasingly firm and hopeful attitude, based on such considerations as the fresh openings and channels which might be found for the trade and resources of their country. In fact, there was once more an exemplification and proof of courageous self-reliance on the part of the Canadian people. Nor was this attitude dependent on mere sentiment or unreason-

ing determination, for the research and inquiry as to new trade openings, which were prompted by the prospect of an emergency, have certainly brought into fresh prominence the opportunities which exist for such developments. And this applies especially to certain food products, the export of which from Canada to Britain might be almost indefinitely increased. I am aware that some people have poked fun at the idea of such "minor products" being treated as a serious element in the commercial prosperity of a great country. Well, there is an old northern saying that "mony a mickle makes a muckle." An egg is in itself a small matter, but when you come to deal with millions of dozens (more than 14 million dozen were exported from Canada in '89), the significance of the article is apparent. Nor need it be supposed that eggs imported to this country from Canada must be relegated entirely to the despised class of "shop eggs." No doubt the article is a ticklish one because it lends itself to deception, and a single lapse may spoil the reputation of a whole province. A school boy was once asked, "What is the gender of 'egg'?" "Please, sir, you don't know till it's hatched." And the same uncertainty attaches to the *age* of the unopened egg. An old neighbour of mine in Scotland used to collect eggs at 6*d.* a dozen during the plentiful season and store them up for a few months. Then at a period of scarcity and high prices she would take them in small instalments to various merchants as new laid eggs at 1*s.* 6*d.* per dozen. But she is beginning to be found out!

I turn for a moment to another "minor" farm product, viz. butter, which might be exported with great advantage from Canada to this country. This is illustrated by the case of Denmark. Eight or ten years ago Danish butter was almost nowhere in the English market, but in 1888 the value of the butter exported from Denmark to Great Britain was £3,600,000. This is an evident and direct result of dairy education and diligent attention to the best methods of dairying; it may also, I believe, be in no small measure due to the co-operative system under which many of the Danish creameries are worked.

But explain it as we may, the undoubted fact of the present dimensions of the Danish butter trade seems to indicate that the Canadian farmers have in this matter been allowing the grass to grow under their feet. It should, however, at the same time be borne in mind that the Canadian exports of cheese have been increasingly large, more than 88 millions of pounds weight having been exported in 1889, of which quantity more than 74 million pounds came to the United Kingdom. In fact, the attention given

to cheese-making since the establishment of cheese factories has been mentioned as an explanation of the low average of the quantity and quality of Canadian butter ; but unquestionably there is plenty of room and scope in that country for the making and exporting of large quantities of first-class butter as well as cheese.

Just a word or two about another agricultural product, viz. barley. For the growing of this many parts of Canada are singularly well adapted. The annual crop is estimated at about 28 million bushels, and most of this quantity has hitherto gone to the United States for brewing purposes. But, apart from the obstacle of the recently high duty placed on barley by the United States Government, it is observable that the Americans are paying more attention to the production of barley in their own country, and are also using, it is said, substitutes for malt in the manufacture of beer. It is to England, therefore, that Canada should look for a fresh market for this grain. But the description of barley hitherto grown and supplied to the United States has been chiefly that known as six-rowed, whereas the sort demanded by English maltsters is the two-rowed barley. The full results, therefore, of the experiments now being made in the growth of two-rowed barley will be awaited with the utmost interest.

Such are a few of the prospective openings for fresh commercial enterprise on the part of Canada, to which might, of course, be added many of large significance, such as those in connection with the developing trade across the Pacific Ocean and also with the West Indies, in regard to which Canada, as illustrated by the part she is taking in the Jamaica Exhibition, is fully on the alert.

But I have purposely selected examples from agricultural products because the number of persons engaged in agriculture in Canada far exceeds the number dependent on other industries, and also because the trade of Great Britain and Ireland is, as everybody knows, the largest in the world, Germany and France taking the second and third places, and the United States coming next. Whatever, therefore, may be the future commercial relations between Canada and the United States, the trade with this country will always be of immense importance, and any influences which may have led to increased attention being given to that trade will not have been otherwise than beneficial.

But what are to be the future relations between Canada and the United States ? It is the vast interest and importance of that question which will cause the present political campaign in Canada to be watched with earnest attention by this country. The recent

intelligence of an immediate appeal to the Dominion electors and the announcement of the chief feature of the policy on which they will have to record their votes came somewhat as a surprise ; but it must be remembered that the old reciprocity of 1854 which it is now proposed to restore, with any necessary modifications, was annulled after the American War, not by Canada, who wished to renew it, but by the United States, who refused to do so owing, it was supposed, to a feeling of irritation at that time against Britain on account of the Alabama case and other matters. Since then both Liberal and Conservative Canadian Governments (the former having been in office from 1874 to 1878) have from time to time attempted to negotiate an arrangement of the same sort. Again, so recently as on the occasion of the Fisheries Conference at Washington in 1888 it was understood that the Canadian Government suggested a form of reciprocity as one of the bases of agreement, though without result. During the past few months, however, other negotiations have apparently paved the way for an understanding on this point ; nor must we overlook the influence of the very remarkable results of the recent American elections, when the tariff legislation was of course the most prominent question before the voters. As to the presentation of this question to the people of Canada, it must be noted above all that it is not *unrestricted* reciprocity that is proposed by the Government. There lies the distinction, and a most vital distinction it is. There is no need for us to regard as disloyal those who advocate unrestricted reciprocity or complete commercial union between Canada and the United States, for among the supporters of that policy are men of unimpeachable integrity as well as great ability. But the point is raised as to whether, if Canada does not desire to become merged in the United States (and I believe the leaders of the present Opposition in Canada disclaim any idea of annexation), it would not be running too grave a risk to enter into an arrangement which might at any time enable the power at the other end of the rope to pull Canada into a position which by a hostile tariff would inevitably result in the breakage of the present connection with the Mother Country, and consequent probable amalgamation with the United States. There are some people who regard this as the manifest destiny of Canada. I protest against such an assumption. Just as Canada has a history, so has she also a destiny of her own. And surely no epoch in her career could be more inopportune than the present for even the suggestion of anything that would divert her from the working out of her own career and the consummation of her own destiny. It is

not yet many years since the freshly opening prospects of Canada drew forth from the most eloquent of her many distinguished Governors such inspiring words as these, uttered by Lord Dufferin at the then infant city of Winnipeg :—

“It was here that Canada, emerging from her woods and forests, first gazed upon her rolling prairies and unexplored North-West, and learnt, as by an unexpected revelation, that her historical territories of the Canadas, her eastern seabords of New Brunswick, Labrador, and Nova Scotia, her Laurentian lakes and valleys, corn lands and pastures, though themselves more extensive than half-a-dozen European kingdoms, were but the vestibules and antechambers to that till then undreamt-of Dominion whose illimitable dimensions alike confound the arithmetic of the surveyor and the verification of the explorer. It was here that, counting her past achievements as but the preface and prelude to her future exertions and expanding destinies, she took a fresh departure, received the afflatus of a more imperial inspiration, and felt herself no longer a mere settler along the banks of a single river, but the owner of half a continent, and in the magnitude of her possessions, in the wealth of her resources, in the sinews of her material might the peer of any power of the earth.”

And Canada is only now beginning to enter into the full fruition of the great Confederation of 1867, which was itself in no small measure promoted and attained as a result of the difficulties connected with the export trade and other matters which Canada had to grapple with at that time. Without confederation it is doubtful if the Canadian Pacific Railway would now be an accomplished fact—that great achievement, with all its potent influence, not only in development of resources, but in uniting and consolidating the various parts of the Dominion ; aye, and not of the Dominion only, but of the whole vast fabric of the British Empire. That is a rich theme which has been fully dealt with by Sir George Baden-Powell in his able lecture before the London Chamber of Commerce this very afternoon.

Then there are the opening prospects of the new swift steamship lines, not only from the western parts of Canada to China, Japan, and it is to be hoped eventually to Australia, but also an improved direct service between this country and Halifax or Quebec.

But I refrain from enlarging upon this part of the subject lest I should seem to be inflicting upon you a very inadequate digest of what we have all had an opportunity of reading in the newspapers during the last few days.

Meanwhile our fellow subjects and fellow citizens in Canada will observe, not without satisfaction, the ever-increasing interest with which their affairs are watched and discussed in this country. It would be absurd to suppose that this interest is based upon mere selfish interests. It proceeds rather from an increased acquaintance with our Colonies which has led to an intelligent sympathy, an intelligent appreciation, and a just pride concerning what those who are bone of our bone and flesh of our flesh have done, are doing, and will yet do. To my mind the solid loyalty of the Canadians and their attachment to the British name and connection is all the more admirable in view of the fact, which I think must be admitted, that there has not always been in former years on the part of Great Britain a sufficiently plain indication of appreciation of the Colonies.

But during the past twenty years there has been a distinct mending process, which is now advancing more rapidly than ever. We at least know more of the geography of our Colonies. We do not so often hear remarks, like one which I heard quoted lately, of a person who, when asked if he had any relations in Canada, replied that he had a cousin who he thought had a ranch in Winnipeg. But even this was better than the Continental paper which related (alluding probably to the new railway bridge at Montreal) that a bridge was to be erected, one end of which was to be in the State of Maine and the other in British Columbia.

Still there is room for much more instruction about the Colonies, and happily there is now no end of literature upon the subject, and of this the latest addition as regards Canada may be found in two little volumes on the history and geography of Canada by Mr. Greswell. These excellently written and useful books are published under the auspices of the Royal Colonial Institute, most appropriately in accordance, as a writer in last week's *Canadian Gazette* justly remarks, with the long course of services which the Institute has rendered both to the Colonies and Great Britain.

Canada has contended against and overcome many an obstacle, and the process will continue. She has a race difficulty. So has the United States. Let us hope that it may be said of the latter, what may, I believe, be certainly said of that in Canada, that it is a diminishing difficulty. I allude of course to the French element. And in justification of the opinion of many of the most far-seeing Canadians, that it will not eventually interfere with the success of the country, let me quote some noble words spoken so recently as 1889 by M. Laurier :—

“ If there are any amongst my fellow countrymen who have ever

dreamed of closing themselves into a small community of Frenchmen on the banks of the St. Lawrence I am not one of them. It would be an act of black ingratitude if, after we had sought from Britain the privileges and rights of British subjects, we were now to reject the responsibilities of subjects; if, having sought the protection of Britain to grow strong, we were when strong enough to attempt to stab the friendly hand and to refuse to cast in our lot with those who are fellow countrymen of ours, and whose birthright we claim as our inheritance. When confederation was established it was not intended that it should be based upon the humiliation of any one race, that any one should give up its characteristics; but it was expected that, though every nationality might retain its individuality, yet that all would be actuated by one aspiration and would endeavour to form one nation."

Yes, Canada is not only a British Colony, she is, as Principal Grant of Kingston has expressed it, a British nationality, and she will not sell her birthright for a mess of pottage. And in conclusion what are the classes of persons who are likely to benefit themselves and Canada by making it their home? Fortunately it is not now necessary to dwell upon the absolute necessity of most careful selection in the matter of emigration. All the Canadian agents of that department testify to the improvement in this direction. Canada need not fear that there will in future be any attempt to tranship failure and incompetency to her shores as a means of getting rid of these commodities. It is becoming understood that not only willingness but ability to work is indispensable. And it would be unpardonable if we in Britain were to allow any deteriorating elements of population to be exported to those lands of our fellow subjects where the best material is most needed.

But let me guard against a misapprehension. I do not believe because, for instance, children have been left destitute or forsaken that they will after proper care and training in this country be, on account of their first condition, ineligible for the Colonies. Let me quote some statements which I heard confirmed when I was in Canada as to the operations of one well-known institution. During the period from January to the end of October last no fewer than 1,046 requests were received at the Toronto Home in writing from farmers asking for boys to be apprenticed to farming work. Only 301 could be sent. And a similar demand came to other branches of the institution. Of course even among trained and tested children there may be occasional failures, but in the case of this institution, which is Dr. Barnardo's, the failures have not

reached 2 per cent. of the whole number placed out. Similar are the results of the operations of other societies, such as the Self-Help Emigration Society and many others, owing to the care and experience which are now brought into operation. And what applies to children may in no small measure apply to adults, though they may have been unfortunate after the necessary process of testing and selection has been thoroughly secured.

As to the openings for young women eligible for domestic service, there is, of course, a great demand for such in Canada ; but, as Lord Lorne said in his “ Canadian Pictures ” in 1885, those who wish to become teachers &c. had best stay at home. When, further, it is asked if educated young men will find scope there it cannot be said that, so far as regards the professions and clerkships, there is room. It could hardly be otherwise with the splendid facilities for education which are provided in Canada. But in farming, where the opening does exist, there is now so much occasion and scope for the application of science that a man, especially one whose tastes are in the direction of natural history and natural science rather than the arts, need not regard his educational training, especially the training of a public school, as wasted, if he decides to resort to Canada. Doubtless he will find it necessary to exert himself, and there will be need of patience and perseverance, and moral backbone, but in the very exercise of these qualities he will be braced and invigorated. He will only be following in the steps of those brave pioneer settlers who have laid the foundations of a vast and splendid natural structure. For it is not only because her territory is so immense and her resources so vast and so various that we look with such confidence to the future of Canada—it is because also her people are imbued with a firm and splendid spirit of self-reliance, with a determination that liberty and good government shall prevail, and that they will do their part in promoting the welfare and prosperity of their land, which, so long as this disposition and purpose prevail, is surely destined to a grand and glorious future.

“ I hear the tread of pioneers,
Of Nations yet to be ;
The first low wash of waves where soon
Shall roll a human sea.”

DISCUSSION.

SIR GEORGE BADEN-POWELL, K.C.M.G., M.P.: In obedience to orders I willingly open the discussion, but I am sure I should have the sympathy of this great and representative audience in this grave difficulty—there cannot be discussion unless there is difference, and I am in the awkward position of being unable to differ from any one single statement in the extremely able and interesting address to which we have just had the pleasure of listening. Lord Aberdeen told us of the preacher whose best passage was said to be his “passage” from the pulpit to the vestry, but I feel certain I am interpreting rightly the feeling of this meeting when I say that the passage from the desk to his chair at the conclusion of his address was the most painful and regrettable passage in connection with the address. Lord Aberdeen had the advantage during his visit of personal experience of an unusual kind. We all know the remark of the cantankerous lawyer—all lawyers are not cantankerous—that the worst of personal experiences was that, in the language of the law, nothing personal could be real. But I am confident you will all agree—especially those who understand Canada—that the personal experiences of Lord Aberdeen are extremely real, and I may say this—I was in Canada myself at the time—that not only Lord Aberdeen, but Lady Aberdeen also took especial and almost unprecedented pains to become acquainted with life and opinion in Canada by, for a time at all events, starting a home of their own in or near Hamilton, thereby acquiring a very familiar acquaintance with Canadian life. I think, therefore, that unique value attaches to Lord Aberdeen’s paper if only on that account. Undesignedly, Lord Aberdeen has brought before us the great subject of Canada at a moment when the eyes of all good citizens of this Empire are turned to that country to see which way the pending elections will go. I must confess for myself, from what I have heard and know concerning both parties in Canada, that I do not believe for one moment that either party is disloyal to the Imperial unity. I know that the head of one great party has issued a manifesto, which is to my mind one of the finest productions in the English language, describing what should be the feelings of every citizen in our great Empire, and I venture to say that the political opponents of Sir John Macdonald will one and all only regret that they cannot put into such fine language the sentiments which, I am sure, animate them of loyalty to the British Empire. The remarkable point is that both sides are putting in the forefront of their political programme the attaining of further outlets

for the trade of Canada, and as to that I am sure the people of the old country are only too anxious and eager to extend to Canada what I may call the right hand of trade fellowship. It is a matter which is coming before the British public every day with increasing force. They desire that the facilities for intercourse should be increased—that any barriers—customs tariffs, shipping dues, or anything which interferes with trade—should be done away with, or at all events mitigated in their severity as far as possible. Lord Aberdeen has spoken of the present position of Canada and of her prospective growth. He said that at all events in the French portion of Canada the growth would be exceedingly fast, because—I think he said—the families there averaged forty-three! I cannot vouch for the accuracy of that statement, but this I may say, that the French Canadians are a peculiarly hard-working and thrifty people, for whom I have a great affection, and that in my opinion they do and will work to profit one of the finest portions of the great Empire to which we belong. I would wish to recall this fact—which is often forgotten—that already Canada does more than half its external trade with countries other than the United States. We often see references to the McKinley tariff and its effect on the trade with Canada, as though the trade with the United States was the great and only salvation of Canada. Now, £19,970,000 is the value of the trade with the United States, while the value of the Canadian trade with other countries is £20,890,000. It should also be remembered that along the great land frontier, extending over 3,000 miles, there must be a great deal of intercourse that goes to swell the trade with the United States, but which is not strictly in the character of international commerce. One other point. I have recently had the opportunity of reviewing the figures of our timber trade, which is a large trade, and I found, to my surprise, that we take from Canada in bulk of timber six times as much as we take from all the rest of America put together. I also found that that trade involves five times as much tonnage of shipping being employed as that of the rest of America in the timber trade. Lord Aberdeen has referred to the fact that reciprocity is no new move in Canada. It is not brought forward, as I saw stated in a very able article in the *Times*, for the first time this year. In 1854 a reciprocity treaty was made with the United States, and was denounced in 1866; but let me call attention to this fact, which was, I believe, first mooted by Mr. Colmer, that the abrogation of reciprocity in that year found Canada more than ever determined on a union of her provinces, and what I hope and

believe is this—that all this present talk of reciprocity, as in the previous case it confirmed the union among her own provinces, so in this latter it will lead to closer union with the Empire. If we in England exert ourselves and show we are ready to extend to Canada the right hand of trade fellowship, I believe that, as reciprocity with the United States in years gone by promoted the union of her own provinces, so the present movement will end in a greater union with the Mother Country. Looking at that map (Mercator's Projection) I could almost find fault with the Royal Colonial Institute. By itself it indicates, no doubt, that Canada is a most important country, but I think you ought to have alongside of it always another map, which should place Australia, perhaps, in the centre instead of Great Britain, in order that we might realise how close Canada is to China, Japan, and Australia. You will understand from this remark what I mean, and what I hope will soon be the fact—the establishment of mail routes through Canada to the Far East. It is called the Far East in England because we are accustomed to travel by the Mediterranean and the tropics by Singapore to China and Japan. If, however, we go the other way we cross the Atlantic in five days in large and comfortable steamers; in another five days we cross the great Canadian continent by a railway perfectly equipped, and then we find ourselves—steaming steadily across the North Pacific—within 5,000 miles of China and Japan. This route will, I am convinced, soon be developed, and will greatly assist the commerce with Canada. It will, I believe, not only develop the commerce between Canada and Australia, but will foster the growth of this great conviction—that as England has in a century girdled the world with prosperous settlements, so now she is ready to support the patriotic enterprise of Canadians and Australians in establishing a great Empire route of ocean steamers. The noble Chairman has spoken of the hospitality of the United States. I have been to the States and to Canada, and have been “dined and wined” in both countries, although I decline to confess whether, in the Chairman's words, I lost consciousness or not (laughter); but this I will say, that I have never lost, and never shall lose, my consciousness and appreciation not only of the hospitality of Canadians, but of their sterling good qualities. Nurtured among the snows of North America, the Canadians are, I believe, destined to infuse horse-like vigour into the whole continent. I will only add, in conclusion, that I believe Canada will never lose consciousness of the services rendered her, and that no services has she

cause to regard with more satisfaction than the advocacy of eminent men like Lord Aberdeen.

Major W. CLARK (Winnipeg) : I have been for the past ten years a resident in Canada—Winnipeg is my home—and I have had the privilege for some years of going backwards and forwards between this country and Canada on Dominion Government work, which has necessitated a more than ordinary study of the different provinces of the Dominion. With the exception of Prince Edward Island, I have travelled through every province, and I am therefore able to thank Lord Aberdeen for the true and kind words he has spoken. I confess I would have liked Lord Aberdeen to continue his journey on paper a little further West, but his utterances have been on broad lines, and he could not afford to discourse, for example, on the magnitude of the North-West or its possibilities ; neither could he find time to take in the prospective developments of British Columbia. When I went to Winnipeg in the winter of 1879-80, there was no railway across Red River, and the North-West was practically unknown. For years after there was no idea of exporting from that country. In fact, so lately as 1883 it was necessary for me to go into the State of Minnesota, on behalf of the Manitoba Provincial Government, to purchase seed grain for the settlers, while just previous to that we had to import flour for the needs of the population. That was seven years ago. To-day I see in the *Canadian Gazette* that the President of the Winnipeg Produce Exchange estimates last year's crop of grain in the Canadian North-West at thirty million bushels, half of which was available for export. Lord Dufferin prophesied, and his prophecy has certainly proved a correct one. What will be the future, measured by the past, it were difficult to say ; but if the other provinces supply horses, cattle, eggs, and cheese, as Lord Aberdeen has pointed out, we may fairly believe that the Canadian North-West will be the principal granary of the British Empire. Going further west, we find on the shores of the Pacific a country that is to all intents and purposes simply a duplicate of this island of Great Britain. There, in a concentrated way, you have all the variety you possess in Great Britain. In Canada itself things are laid out wholesale, so to speak—enormous tracts of forest and vast ranges of mineral-bearing rock and prairie. In British Columbia you have cultivated land, forests, and minerals—for there is coal, iron, and the precious metals—all within reasonable reach and touch of one another, while the climate is a counterpart of the climate of this island. I have no doubt myself that the development of this region, consequent on the opening of the railway and of the

mail-routes to which Sir George Baden-Powell has alluded, will be more wonderful than anything that has taken place in any other part of Canada. Some enterprises have been begun there and are going on satisfactorily, such as farming, saw-milling, and mining, but there is one industry that is practically untouched, and that will probably be one of the most prominent sources of wealth to the country—that is, the fisheries of British Columbia. On the Atlantic sea-board there are some sixty-eight thousand men employed in the deep-sea fisheries, while on the coasts of British Columbia, which are admittedly as prolific as those of the Atlantic, there is practically no deep-sea fishing at all. The only organised industry of this kind is the salmon fishing, which employs a good many men, and is an enterprise confined to the rivers—probably not more than six hundred or eight hundred are engaged in deep-sea work, while on the Atlantic sea-board, as I have said, some sixty-eight thousand men are employed. We may reasonably expect that this source of wealth will be tapped in the near future, and will make a tremendous addition to the revenues of Canada. In connection with this matter, I am pleased to understand that efforts are being made to transfer to British Columbia a number of fishermen from the congested districts round the Scotch coast. It seems the most profitable way, probably, of solving the difficulty here and of at the same time aiding Canada to develop her latent resources. Another point of interest to those concerned in Imperial defence, and in protecting the points of arrival and departure on our ocean highways, is that a large number of fishermen around the coast of Scotland are Naval Reserve men. If, for example, under the scheme under consideration at the present time, only one member of each family proposed to be sent to British Columbia is a member of the Royal Naval Reserve, we should have in the neighbourhood of Esquimaux a brigade of at least a thousand trained men when that scheme is completed—a matter, I think, of no small importance in connection with Imperial defence. In conclusion, as one who has made Canada the land of his adoption, I beg to thank Lord Aberdeen for the kind words he has uttered concerning us.

The Hon. Sir ARTHUR H. GORDON, G.C.M.G.: On the American continent time flies fast. Cities are built, railroads are extended, forests are felled, agriculture spreads with a rapidity unknown to us in the more slow-going countries of Europe. As a quarter of a century, which is no inconsiderable period even with us in the Old World, has passed since I had any official connection with British North America, I should have thought I was entirely out of the run-

ning for saying anything here to-night. But, as I suppose, if one of our ancestors of the reign of Queen Anne (which I take to be about a parallel distance from us here as thirty years is in Canada) were with us to-night, though he could tell us nothing of what is going on in the Victorian era, he would express his pleasure at what he heard of it; so, having lived once in Canada for some years, I may be allowed to share the sentiments of those who live there now in thanking Lord Aberdeen for the interesting paper he has given us. I believe no one who has lived any length of time in the Dominion of Canada can fail to love it. It is a country full of attractions to those who are fortunate enough to live in it. What struck me most in what I have heard this evening, not only from my noble relative, but from the most interesting and lucidly conveyed statement of Major Clark, and what I think would strike other old fogies who were officials in Canada before the days of Confederation, is the number of new industries that have been mentioned. That is a great sign the country is alive and going forward. You, my lord, have been good enough to say that I was in Canada, or, at least, in the British provinces at the time of the Confederation, and had some slight hand in bringing about its consummation. I confess that at that time, although I looked on the confederation of these provinces as a great and a good work, I was not entirely without misgiving as to the manner in which its practical operation might be felt in some parts of the Dominion; I am bound to say that all those apprehensions have been entirely and fortunately disappointed. I think the history of the Dominion is one of which the authors of the scheme may well be proud. I know no Government which has worked with more success or with less friction—none which has left the rights of the individual more free and untouched and yet has preserved the essentials of a strong and real Government. No doubt, in some respects, the Dominion has been fortunate. It has been fortunate in the succession of those who have presided as Governors-General. It has been fortunate in the spirit which has animated both the political parties which divide the country. It has been fortunate, too—I may be permitted to say so, as being wholly independent of parties in Canada—in some of the statesmen of Canada who have assisted in the working of that Government. It is thirty years since I first went there, but even before that time my old friend—one of the most eminent men who has been Governor-General, Sir Edmund Head—told me he had a very remarkable man as his Prime Minister. Well: that man is Prime Minister still! Just fancy! At the time when Louis Napoleon was Emperor of

the French, when Bismarck had not been heard of, when Italy was not united, when Lord Palmerston was Prime Minister of England, Sir John A. Macdonald was Prime Minister of Canada; and now, after an interval of more than thirty years, though not without intervals—generally short ones—he is still at the head of the Government. That shows a great deal. It shows not only that the man is a remarkable man, but what are the self-restraints and governing instincts of the people who have chosen to entrust their destinies to his guidance. And now, my Lord Marquis, I have done your bidding, and as I have only obeyed your commands I owe no apology to the meeting. It is for you to apologise to it for having subjected it to the infliction of a speech certainly conveying no information, and which must, I fear, be admitted to be only an objectless and fruitless waste of its time.

The Right Hon. Lord BRASSEY, K.C.B.: I presume the noble Chairman has called upon me because a few days ago I made a communication to a public journal with reference to an experiment in colonisation in Canada. The subject of colonisation is now very much under public consideration, and I thought any experience of a practical nature should be made public for general information. I regret that my story was in some sense the story of a failure, but I desire to say that the causes of that failure were not in any sense connected with the want of resources and openings in Canada for emigrants from this country. Our failure was due to the nature of the agreements made—agreements which can easily be remedied now we have had experience, and the failure was still more due to the want of adequate personal supervision. I am glad to say that all the persons who were emigrated under the auspices of the company with which I am connected have found in Canada a home in which they are prosperous, that every person who was sent out is now in profitable employment, and that, in short, he has no cause to regret his journey from the old country to the new. I feel deeply impressed with the necessity of effective personal supervision in order to secure success in colonisation. I have this afternoon been in communication with a gentleman well known in connection with successful colonisations—Mr. Arnold White. With his assistance I mean to make another effort, and I have no doubt that, with more experience and the good advice of Mr. White, I shall be able to make a communication of a more satisfactory nature than the one I have recently addressed to the columns of the *Times*. I should like to refer in a sentence to what fell from Sir George Baden-Powell as to the desirability—nay, the necessity—of establishing a

thorough communication from this country to Australia by the Canadian Pacific route. I am glad to be able to say that steps of a practical nature are now being taken with a view to carrying out at an early day the grand scheme shadowed forth by Sir George Baden-Powell, and I hope that at the proper time the Imperial Government will look with favour on the undertaking and grant us some assistance.

Mr. J. G. COLMER, C.M.G. : The gratitude which Canadians will feel for Lord Aberdeen's excellent paper—which I could wish had been a little longer—will not be in any way lessened by the fact that the chair is occupied by the Marquis of Lorne, who, during his official connection with the country, endeared himself to all Canadians. There is only one point in the paper to which I would specially refer, and that rather by way of amplification than criticism. The noble lord mentions that the number of emigrants proceeding to Canada by the St. Lawrence route in 1889 was 27,000. As it might appear that that is the actual extent of the emigration to Canada, I may be allowed to explain that there are other routes by which emigrants travel, notably by way of the United States ; and as a matter of fact, the total number of settlers in the year mentioned is given in the official reports of the Minister of Agriculture as being between 70,000 and 80,000—that is, after deducting the number of passengers who travelled through Canada on their way to the Western States. Although the country is much better known now than was the case some years ago, there is still a good deal of misapprehension prevalent as to its extent, its resources, and its climate, and Canadians like nothing better than to be visited by men “ of light and leading,” especially when, as in Lord Aberdeen's case, they give the public the benefit of their impressions on their return. Canadians have one weakness, or perhaps it should be described as a source of strength—that is, that they are proud of and enthusiastic about their country, and I think most of the people who have been there will feel they are quite justified in that feeling. Every one who visits the country brings away the pleasantest recollections, and most of the visitors, I believe, go back again. I hope we may expect another visit from the noble lord before long, because I see he has purchased a property in the country, and I am sure when he returns he will receive a warm welcome. The progress which Canada has made in the last ten or fifteen years is not always realised in this country. So recently as ten years ago the eastern part of Canada was practically separated from the west. There was no communication

except through the States, but now we find all the provinces bound together by that great means of civilisation and progress—the railway. And I should like to mention that the policy which led to the construction of the great line had in view not only that result, but something equally important, and that was the making of Canada as important a Power on the Pacific as she has always been on the Atlantic. It is only natural that the completion of the railway should not have been allowed to end that great work. Before its completion arrangements were made for steamship communication between China, Japan, and British Columbia, while to-day—very appropriately in view of this meeting—the first steamer of the new service left Liverpool for the East to inaugurate that new service, which will be superior to anything which has ever been seen in that part of the Pacific. I may say that the fast steamers on this service are to be built under Admiralty supervision, and that they are subsidised by the Imperial and Dominion Governments. Again, the Canadians have expressed themselves willing to subsidise a service between British Columbia and Australia, and have taken the keenest possible interest also in the cable communication between those two countries. If Australia will only second the efforts we are making, we shall before long have both steamship and cable communication between Canada and Australia, which will not only connect them, but extend their trading facilities and complete the British line of communication round the world; for in Australia, China, and Japan they will be in connection with other lines of steamers plying to Europe by the Cape or the Suez Canal. I believe, for these reasons, that the progress of Canada will be greater in the future than in the past, and it is not going to be interrupted by McKinley tariffs or anything of that sort. In her desire to open up new markets, Canada has promised a large subsidy towards the establishment of a very fast line of steamers across the Atlantic between Great Britain and Canada; and already lines of steamers subsidised by the Canadian Government are plying regularly between the maritime provinces and the West Indies, by which means and by the excellent representation of Canada at the Jamaica Exhibition we hope the trade with these important Colonies will be largely increased. The great want of Canada at the present time is population. In Great Britain and other countries the congestion of population is giving rise to social questions of the gravest import. In Canada the population is still a small one. It numbers at the present time, I suppose from five to six millions at the outside, and yet we have

hundreds of millions of acres of the most fertile lands in the world simply waiting for people to cultivate them. In the past, no doubt, Canada has been somewhat overshadowed in the race for immigrants by her big neighbour to the south, but I believe that emigrants from this country will find in Canada all the advantages which the United States can offer, together with the inestimable benefit of still being under the British flag. It will be remembered that certain tenant-farmer delegates were invited by the Canadian Government to visit that country last autumn, and I do not think I am divulging any secret when I say that their reports, most of which have now been written, are of an extremely favourable nature. The Government is offering considerable bonuses to actual settlers on land in the Manitoba North-West and British Columbia, and it is hoped by these means to increase the number of agricultural settlers who now annually make their way to Canada. It only remains to say to those people for whom Canada offers so many advantages, that they will find a warm welcome in the Dominion, no matter to what part they may go. They will not be strangers. They will find there—what is not perhaps fully realised—the same language, the same laws, the same customs, and above all, notwithstanding anything that has been said, the same loyalty that exists in the Mother Country. There is no doubt whatever as to the loyalty of Canadians. It has been more than once stated that no candidate would be elected to the Dominion House of Commons who was known to advocate annexation to the United States, and people have gone so far as to say that no man would be elected as village policeman who held such views. I firmly believe that Canada will remain, as she is now, one of the great bulwarks of the British Empire. I cannot see that any other result is possible when we consider that the French Canadians are among the most loyal of Her Majesty's subjects, and that, in addition, the remaining part of the population is largely composed of descendants of those grand men who, after the Declaration of Independence of the United States, removed to Canada rather than give up their allegiance to the British Crown.

The Rev. GEORGE HILL, D.C.L., Nova Scotia : Born in Canada and resident there sixty years, I have heard with great delight the sentiments which have been expressed with regard to Canadian loyalty. I believe I echo the feelings of the overwhelming majority of the people when I say that they cherish the deepest loyalty to the Sovereign of these realms, and would be ready, as Englishmen always are, to lay down their lives in defence of the Crown and

country. It is too late now to attempt to discuss the paper, but there is one point to which I may allude, viz. the produce of the country. His lordship, with admirable terseness and accuracy, has mentioned several of the products, but there is one to which I would like to call special attention as interesting the maritime provinces, and that is fruit. I verily believe that in no country in the world do they raise better apples and pears than in Nova Scotia. In the spring I have ridden through miles of apple blossom, and in the autumn through miles of these same orchards glowing with magnificent fruit. These apples are so mixed up with our neighbours' that they generally pass as American. Now, we as a people do not like to be called Americans. We are Americans just as Englishmen are Europeans, and not more so. We like our national title, and so with regard to our apples. I do wish that those who take any interest in Canada would, when they are invited to purchase American apples, inquire whether they are not Canadian; for by so doing you would spread their reputation and add to our sources of revenue.

Sir FREDERICK YOUNG, K.C.M.G.: Before the discussion is brought to a close, may I be allowed to point out, for the sake of accuracy, that Sir George Baden-Powell, in the course of his very excellent speech, twice mentioned that the Reciprocity Treaty of "1854" between Canada and the United States was abrogated in "1886"? That, of course, was a slip, the real date being "1856." Then with regard to *our* map—"Mercator's Projection"—I feel somewhat sensitive on that score, because in the early days of the Institute I had a personal responsibility in the matter. Of course the map is now rather behind the age, but still it serves to fulfil its intended object of giving a rough idea of the extent and vastness of the British Colonial Empire on the surface of the globe. I hope that one of these days we shall be able to hang on the walls also a map more like what we should perhaps desire to see. I cannot forbear taking this opportunity of saying with what interest I have listened to the very valuable address delivered by the noble Earl. And in regard to the reference which was made in the discussion which followed the subject of fruit-growing, I may say that none of you can fail to remember the magnificent exhibition of Canadian fruit products at South Kensington some few years ago at the Colonial Exhibition. It impressed me very much indeed. There were no fewer than 1,000 different specimens of Canadian apples shown on that occasion. On this point I entirely agree with the reverend gentleman who has just spoken, that over and over again

these apples are designated American by fruiterers in England, when, as a matter of fact, they are not so. It is only just to Canada the fact should be known, and recognised by the trade.

The CHAIRMAN: You will all echo the sentiments which have been expressed by Sir Frederick Young and others with regard to the paper which Lord Aberdeen has read. The paper referred to the great natural resources of Canada, and touched also on the rather burning question of tariff arrangements. In speaking of the Colonies we must always remember that they have not got into our delightful way of positively liking to pay income-tax. An Englishman would hardly know himself unless he could anathematise all human beings who do not call themselves free-traders, and who do not pay income-tax. The Colonies do not quite see matters in the same light. I do not know that these tariffs, even the McKinley tariff, are always so formidable as they appear on paper. I remember some time ago hearing of an American customs officer who, after having performed his duty very diligently along part of the frontier, went and asked to have something added to his salary. He was coolly refused, and when he asked why, the answer was that he had been doing the very thing the Government did not wish him to do, viz., keeping the Customs line too strictly. I believe, in spite of tariff arrangements, that the sentiment which unites Canada to the Mother Country will always survive. It will survive partly, at all events, because every child throughout that vast territory reads in his school primers of the wars fought by his fathers to preserve the connection and uphold the Union Jack, and if you want the best form of Imperial Federation, I hope you will always look to your school primers on historical subjects. We value the connection, because we are proud of our sons, and believe they will stand by us whenever we find ourselves, as the saying is, in a hole. But there is no doubt that these questions of tariffs are not quite understood in England. As soon as we hear of the raising of rates against British commerce we are rather apt to think the act is unfriendly. There is no doubt that the first effect is to raise round that country what old John Bright used to call a Chinese wall; but there are other considerations which will overleap that barrier in the case of a country having great natural resources like Canada, because our countrymen will always look to the vast resources to be developed, and will remember that the more they are developed by his own capital being lent to them, the more ultimately will come back to his pocket; and I do not think, in the case of those countries having great natural resources, we need make ourselves uncomfortable because they wish to go in for a

little protection. It is a very good thing when Englishmen of eminence go and make themselves acquainted with the Colonies, and show them that they are apt to look not only at the interests of England, but at the interests of the Empire as a whole ; and although it may be some time before our Colonies are directly represented in the Government organisation here—although the time will come, I hope, when they will be represented by some machinery that I need not now specialise,—in the meantime a very good precursor of that representation is to be found in men like Lord Aberdeen, who may in the House of Lords represent those Colonies and those Colonists whom they have visited. I beg to move a vote of thanks to Lord Aberdeen for his paper.

The motion was passed with acclamation.

THE EARL OF ABERDEEN: I am very grateful for your cordial acceptance of this most kindly proposed vote. I feel very conscious of many omissions in my paper—in fact, I may say, after having trespassed on your patience for fifty minutes, I felt I had hardly touched on the fringe of the subject. I would have liked to speak of my experience of what may be called the social life of Canada. Sir George Baden-Powell alluded to the fact that we established ourselves for a time in one of the Canadian cities, and I could tell a tale of the kindness, the hospitality, and the geniality of our neighbours, which was typical of our experience all through Canada. I would like to inform Major Clark that we did penetrate to British Columbia, and that we were much impressed with the wonderful resources, and the amazingly fine scenery of that region. Indeed, in the words of Emerson, in reference to another celebrated locality, I may say that it “came up to the brag.” Sir Arthur Gordon said no one who had lived in Canada could help loving it. Our short experience leads us to the same conclusion ; and in reference to him I can assure him that though, as he said, many years have elapsed since he was Governor of New Brunswick, and although since then he has had the great distinction of governing four or five other Colonies, he is not forgotten in Canada. The Rev. Dr. Hill spoke of the fruit of Canada. We saw a good deal of Canadian fruit, and in regard to Canadian grapes I can assure you there is no need to qualify their praise in the same way that the Scotchman was compelled to qualify the praise of the grapes of his native country. He praised the Scotch grapes, and when at length he was rather driven into a corner by opposing argument, he said—“I must premeese I like them soor.” I may say, in conclusion, that I endeavoured to treat the whole subject from a general and, so to speak, Dominion

point of view, rather than from the standpoint of personal experiences. It is now my privilege to become the mouthpiece and representative of this assembly, and to propose a cordial vote of thanks to the noble Marquis for presiding. I was delighted when I heard he was to preside, and no one can feel more indebted to him than I do. It is needless to say that in Canada the names of the Marquis and Marchioness of Lorne are still fragrant, and that they are remembered there with affection and admiration and gratitude. We all know the eminent services the noble Marquis has since that time rendered in this country to the Colonies, and I am sure you will all cordially join in this vote of thanks.

The vote having been passed, the meeting separated.

